



July 11, 2011

**Officers**  
**Interim Chairperson**  
Judith L. Lichtman  
National Partnership for Women  
& Families  
**Vice Chairperson**  
Karen K. Narasaki  
Asian American Justice Center  
**Secretary**  
Barry Rand  
AARP  
**Treasurer**  
Lee A. Saunders  
American Federation of State,  
County & Municipal Employees

**Executive Committee**  
Barbara Arnwine  
Lawyer's Committee For  
Civil Rights Under Law  
Arlene Holt Baker  
AFL-CIO  
Marcia Greenberger  
National Women's Law Center  
Linda D. Hallman  
American Association of  
University Women  
Mary Kay Henry  
Service Employees  
International Union  
Mark Perriello  
American Association of People  
with Disabilities  
Benjamin Jealous  
NAACP  
Michael B. Keegan  
People For The American Way  
Floyd Mori  
Japanese American Citizens  
League  
Marc H. Morial  
National Urban League  
Janet Murguia  
National Council of La Raza  
Debra Ness  
National Partnership for Women  
And Families  
Terry O'Neill  
National Organization for Women  
Jacqueline Johnson Pata  
National Congress of  
American Indians  
John Payton  
NAACP Legal Defense and  
Educational Fund, Inc.  
Dennis Van Roekel  
National Education Association  
Anthony Romero  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Thomas A. Saenz  
Mexican American Legal Defense  
& Educational Fund  
David Saperstein  
Religious Action Center for  
Reform Judaism  
Shanna L. Smith  
National Fair Housing Alliance  
Joe Solomonese  
Human Rights Campaign  
Randi Weingarten  
American Federation of Teachers  
Mary G. Wilson  
League of Women Voters  
Warren David  
American-Arab Anti-  
Discrimination Committee

**Compliance/Enforcement  
Committee Chairperson**  
Karen K. Narasaki  
Asian American Justice Center  
**President & CEO**  
Wade J. Henderson  
**Executive Vice President & COO**  
Karen McGill Lawson

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners Copps, McDowell, and Clyburn:

On behalf of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition charged by its diverse membership of more than 200 national organizations to promote and protect the rights of all persons in the United States, we write to express our strong support for the Federal Communications Commission's recent efforts to implement the Local Community Radio Act (LCRA), a longstanding priority of the civil and human rights community.

We advocated for and supported passage of the LCRA in order to expand opportunities for new low power radio stations across the country, and particularly in urban markets where they have not been previously available. The Leadership Conference has long regarded expanding ownership by women and people of color as an important goal because of the powerful role the media plays in the democratic process, as well as in shaping perceptions about who we are as individuals and as a nation.

The goal of the LCRA is to ensure that all segments of society have the opportunity to participate fully in the broadcast communications environment. The Commission's action will ensure that this goal is carried out in two important ways: by enhancing diverse viewpoints and by enhancing diverse ownership. By providing community leaders the opportunity to have a voice on the public airwaves where no such opportunity previously existed, new LPFM radio stations will help promote greater diversity on the public airwaves.

We are pleased the Commission has conducted a detailed and careful analysis in each market to ensure availability of low power radio stations in urban markets and also protect the interests of broadcasters with existing applications for supplementary licenses known as translators. In so doing, the Commission is implementing Congress' directive that the Commission "ensure that licenses are available to ... low-power FM stations" as well as translator stations and booster stations.<sup>1</sup> We support the Commission's efforts to secure spectrum for LPFM station in urban markets, while rapidly licensing new translators in markets where such licensing would not undermine availability of LPFM stations. The Leadership Conference recognizes that this task involves an important balancing of interests, and we commend the Commission's proposal to do so.

---

<sup>1</sup> Local Community Radio Act, Pub.L. 111-371, §5.

July 11, 2011  
Page 2 of 2



We encourage the Commission to act expeditiously to implement the Local Community Radio Act and to maximize availability of low power radio stations consistent with the priorities laid out by Congress. Should you require further information or have any questions regarding this issue, please contact The Leadership Conference Media/Telecommunications Task Force Co-Chairs Cheryl Leanza, at 202-904-2168; Christopher Calabrese, at 202-715-0839; or Corrine Yu, at 202-466-5670.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wade Henderson', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Wade Henderson  
President & CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nancy Zirkin', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Nancy Zirkin  
Executive Vice President